

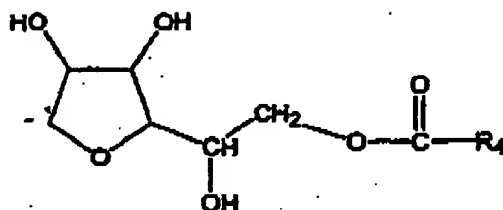
IN THE CLAIMS

Amend claims 11, and 19-20 as follows;

11. (Currently amended) A cosmetic or dermatological preparation comprising one or more aqueous phases, and comprising:

(I) one or more partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid,

(II) one or more sorbitan monoesters, which have the structural formula:



where R₄ is a branched or unbranched alkyl radical having 8 to 22 carbon atoms,

one or more fatty alcohols, selected from the group consisting of branched and unbranched alkyl alcohols having 12 to 40 carbon atoms, and wherein the weight ratios of the partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides and the sorbitan esters range from 7:3 to 3:7, and

and one or more electrolytes in dissolved form in at least one of the one or more aqueous phases.

12. (Previously presented) Preparation according to Claim 11, wherein the total amount of one or more partially neutralized monoglycerides and/or diglyceride of saturated fatty acids with citric acid in the preparation is 0.1 - 10.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.

13. (Previously presented) Preparation according to Claim 12, wherein the total amount of one or more partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid in the preparation is 0.5 - 6.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.

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14. (Previously presented) Preparation according to Claim 11, wherein the total amount of one or more sorbitan monoesters in the preparation is 0.1 - 25.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.

15. (Previously presented) Preparation according to Claim 14, wherein the total amount of one or more sorbitan monoesters in the parathion is 0.5 - 15.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.

16. (Previously presented) Preparation according to Claim 11, wherein the total amount of one or more fatty alcohols in the preparation is 0.1 - 10.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.

17. (Previously presented) Preparation according to Claim 16, wherein the total amount of one or more fatty alcohols in the preparation is 0.5 - 6.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) Preparation according to Claim ~~11~~ 18, wherein the weight ratios of the partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid and the sorbitan esters on the one hand and the one or more fatty alcohols on the other hand range from 2:1 to 1:2.

20. (Currently amended) Preparation according to Claim ~~11~~ 18, wherein the weight ratios of the partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid and the sorbitan esters on the one hand and the one or more fatty alcohols on the other hand are about 1:1.

21. (Previously presented) Preparation according to Claim 11, wherein the partially neutralized ester of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid is glyceryl stearate citrate.

22. (Previously presented) A method of caring for skin comprising topically applying thereto an effective amount therefor of a cosmetic or dermatologic preparation according to claim 11.

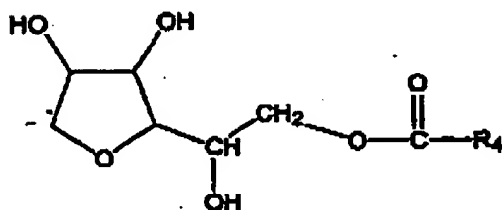
23. (Currently amended) A method for achieving or increasing the stability of an emulsion to

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the presence of one or more electrolytes in dissolved form in at least one aqueous phase of said emulsion, said method comprising a) incorporating into said emulsion in addition to said one or more electrolytes:

(I) one or more partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid,

(II) one or more sorbitan monoesters, which have the structural formula:



where R4 is a branched or unbraced unbranched alkyl radical having 8 to 22 carbon atoms, and and wherein the weight ratios of the partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides and the sorbitan esters range from 7:3 to 3:7, and

(III) one or more fatty alcohols, selected from the group consisting of branched

and unbranched alkyl alcohols having 12 to 40 carbon atoms,

and thereby

b) achieving the stability of the emulsion or increasing the stability of the emulsion.

24. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 23, wherein the stability of an oil-in-water (O/W) emulsion to said one or more electrolytes is achieved or increased.

25. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 23, wherein the concentration of substances dissociated into ions in the aqueous phase(s) in which the electrolyte(s) is/are present in dissolved form is at least 0.05 mol/l.

26. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 23, wherein the concentration of substances dissociated into ions in the aqueous phase(s) in which the electrolyte(s) is/are

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present in dissolved form is at least 0.075 moll.

27. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 23, wherein the concentration of substances dissociated into ions in the aqueous phase(s) in which the electrolyte(s) is/are present in dissolved form is at least 0.10 moll.

28. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 23, wherein the ionic strength of the aqueous phase(s) in which the electrolyte(s) is/are present in dissolved form is at least 0.05 mol/l.

29. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 23, wherein the ionic strength of the aqueous phase(s) in which the electrolyte(s) is/are present in dissolved form is at least 0.075 moll.

30. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 23, wherein in the ionic strength of the aqueous phase(s) in which the electrolyte(s) is/are present in dissolved form is at least 0.10 mol/l.

31. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 23, wherein the total amount of more or more partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid in the preparation is 0.1 - 10.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.

32. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 31, wherein the total amount of one or more partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid in the preparation is 0.5 - 6.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.

33. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 23, wherein the total amount of one or more sorbitan monoesters in the preparation is 0.1 - 25.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.

34. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 33, wherein the total amount of one or more sorbitan monoesters in the preparation is 0.5 - 15.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.

35. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 23, wherein the total amount of

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one or more fatty alcohols in the preparation is 0.1 - 10.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.

36. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 35, wherein the total amount of one or more fatty alcohols in the preparation is 0.5 - 6.0% by weight based on the total weight of the preparation.

37. (Canceled).

38. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 23 ~~37~~, wherein the weight ratios of the partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid and the sorbitan esters on the one hand and the one or more fatty alcohols on the other hand range from 2:1 to 1:2.

39. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 23 ~~37~~, wherein the weight ratios of the partially neutralized esters of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid and the sorbitan esters on the one hand and the one or more fatty alcohols on the other hand are about 1:1.

40. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 23, wherein the partially neutralized ester of monoglycerides and/or diglycerides of saturated fatty acids with citric acid is glyceryl stearate citrate.

41. to 43. (Canceled)